

1 **Please cancel claims 187-190**

1 **191. (currently amended)** The system set forth in claim ~~187~~211 wherein:

2 there is a plurality of types of model entities; and

3 a representation of a model entity specifies the represented model entity's type.

1 **192. (currently amended)** The system set forth in claim ~~187~~211 wherein:

2 the model further includes representations of further information that are related
3 to certain of the representations of the model entities; and

4 ~~the processor responds to further inputs of the first inputs by outputting the~~
5 graphical user interface further permits the user to access the representations of the
6 related further information ~~and receives further inputs of the second inputs to which the~~
7 ~~processor responds by accessing the related further information.~~

1 **193. (currently amended)** The system set forth in claim 192 wherein:

2 ~~the interface further receives still further inputs of the second inputs to which the~~
3 ~~processor responds by modifying~~ the graphical user interface further permits the user to
4 modify the further information.

1 **194. (previously presented)** The system set forth in claim 193 wherein:

2 the further information is a document that is accessible to the system.

1 **195. (previously presented)** The system set forth in claim 193 wherein:

2 the further information is a message sent to the person by another person.

1 **196. (previously presented)** The system set forth in claim 194 wherein:

2 the further information is a discussion concerning the model entity among the
3 persons.

1 **197. (currently amended)** A data storage device, the data storage device being
2 characterized in that:

3 the data storage device contains a program which, when executed in a computer
4 system, implements the system set forth in claim ~~187~~211.

1 **198. (currently amended).** A method of supporting management of a ~~business~~
2 collaborative activity in a system which includes a processor, the processor having access
3 to a database containing a model of the ~~business~~collaborative activity, the model
4 including representations of model entities, a given representation of a model entity
5 being capable of simultaneously belonging to hierarchies including a hierarchy and
6 another hierarchy, and the representations of model entities providing access to
7 information relating to the ~~business~~collaborative activity, the processor providing an
8 interface for one or more users of the system who are not specialists in information
9 technology, and the method comprising the steps performed in the system of:

10 receiving a definition of a model entity belonging to a ~~the model of the~~
11 collaborative activity of the business from a ~~person involved in the business~~user via the
12 interface and responding thereto by producing a representation of the model entity in the
13 database; and

14 receiving a first indication of a first hierarchical relationship between the model
15 entity and another model entity belonging to the hierarchy from the user via the interface
16 and responding thereto by ~~using the interface to relate~~relating the model entity to the
17 other model entity in the hierarchy and

18 receiving a second indication of a second hierarchical relationship between the
19 model entity and a third model entity belonging to the other hierarchy from the user via
20 the interface and responding thereto by ~~using the interface to relate~~relating the model
21 entity to the third model entity in the other hierarchy.

1 **199. (currently amended)** The method set forth in claim 198 further comprising the step
2 of:

3 receiving an indication from the ~~person~~user via the interface that one or the other
4 of the hierarchical relationships is to be shown in the interface and responding thereto by
5 showing the indicated relationship in the interface.

1 **200. (previously presented)** The method set forth in claim 198 wherein:
2 the hierarchy and the other hierarchy are different types of hierarchical
3 relationships.

1 **201. (currently amended)** The method set forth in claim 200 wherein the method
2 further comprises the steps of:
3 receiving a third indication from the ~~person~~user via the interface of the type of
4 hierarchical relationship to be used in displaying the model entity in the interface; and
5 responding thereto by displaying the model entity in the interface using the
6 indicated hierarchical relationship.

1 **202. (previously presented)** The method set forth in claim 199 wherein:
2 the indicated hierarchical relationship is shown in the interface by displaying
3 model entities as sorted by the relationship.

1 **203. (currently amended)** The method set forth in claim 198 wherein the representation
2 of the model entity includes a representation of information about the ~~business~~
3 collaborative activity and
4 the method further comprises the steps of:
5 receiving a third indication of the model entity from the person via the interface;
6 receiving a fourth indication of the information from the ~~person~~user via the
7 interface; and
8 responding thereto by producing the representation of the information in the
9 representation of the model entity.

1 **204. (currently amended)** The method set forth in claim 203 further comprising the
2 steps of:

3 receiving a fifth indication from the ~~person~~user via the interface that the
4 information in the representation of the information in the representation of the model
5 entity is to be displayed; and
6 responding thereto by showing the indicated information in the interface.

1 **205. (currently amended)** The method set forth in claim 203 further comprising the step
2 of:

3 receiving a sixth information from the ~~person~~user via the interface that the
4 information in the representation of the information in the representation of the model
5 entity is to be modified; and
6 responding thereto by permitting the user to modify the information.

1 **206. (currently amended)** The method set forth in claim 203 further comprising the
2 steps of:

3 _____receiving a sixth indication from the ~~person~~user via the interface that the model
4 entities are to be sorted by values of the information in the representation of the
5 information in the representation of the model entity; and
6 responding thereto by showing the sorted model entities in the interface.

1 **207. (currently amended)** The method set forth in claim 198 further comprising the
2 steps of:

3 receiving a third indication from the ~~person~~user via the interface of a model
4 entity;
5 receiving a fourth indication that further information is to be related to the
6 indicated model entity; and
7 responding thereto by relating a representation of the further information to the
8 representation of the indicated model entity.

1 **208. (currently amended)** The method set forth in claim 207 further comprising the
2 steps of:

3 receiving a fifth indication from the ~~person~~user via the interface that the further
4 information related to the model entity is to be displayed; and
5 responding thereto by showing the related further information in the interface.

1 **209. (currently amended)** The method set forth in claim 208 further comprising the
2 steps of:

3 receiving a sixth indication from the ~~person~~user via the interface that the further
4 information related to the model entity is to be modified; and
5 responding thereto by modifying the related further information.

1 **210. (previously presented)** A data storage device, the data storage device being
2 characterized in that:

3 the data storage device contains a program which, when executed in a computer
4 system, implements the method set forth in claim 198.

1 **211. (new)** A system for supporting management of a collaborative activity by persons
2 involved therein, the persons not being specialists in information technology and
3 the system comprising:

4 a representation of a model of the collaborative activity, the representation being
5 accessible to a processor and the model of the collaborative activity including model
6 entities, the model entities providing access to information concerning the collaborative
7 activity, being organized into a plurality of hierarchies having a plurality of types, and a
8 given model entity being capable of simultaneously belonging to a hierarchy having one
9 of the types and a hierarchy having another of the types; and

10 a graphical user interface for the system which the processor provides to the
11 persons, the graphical user interface permitting a person of the persons to perform
12 operations on a model entity as limited by a type of access which the person has to the
13 model entity, the operations including controlling access to the model entity, creating,
14 modifying, and/or deleting the model entity, assigning the model entity to a location in a

15 hierarchy, accessing and/or modifying the information concerning the collaborative
16 activity via the model entity, viewing model entities as ordered by a hierarchy to which
17 the entities belong, and viewing model entities as ordered by a value in the information
18 concerning the collaborative activity to which the entities give access.